



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

***Raised Bill No. 1378***

LCO No. 4996

\*04996\_\_\_\_\_LAB\*

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS' FEE SCHEDULE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. Subdivision (11) of subsection (b) of section 31-280 of the  
2       general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3       thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

4       (11) (A) Establish standards in consultation with the advisory board  
5       for approving all fees for services rendered under this chapter by  
6       attorneys, physicians, surgeons, podiatrists, optometrists, dentists and  
7       other persons;

8       (B) In consultation with employers, their insurance carriers, union  
9       representatives, physicians and third-party reimbursement  
10      organizations establish, not later than October 1, 1993, and publish  
11      annually thereafter, a fee schedule setting the fees payable by an  
12      employer or its insurance carrier for services rendered under this  
13      chapter by an approved physician, surgeon, podiatrist, optometrist,  
14      [or] dentist and other persons, provided the fee schedule shall not  
15      apply to services rendered to a claimant who is participating in an  
16      employer's managed care plan pursuant to section 31-279. On and after

17 April 1, 2008, the chairman shall implement and annually update  
 18 relative values based on the Medicare resource-based relative value  
 19 scale and implement coding guidelines in conformance with the  
 20 Correct Coding Initiative used by the federal Centers for Medicare and  
 21 Medicaid Services. The conversion to the Medicare resource-based  
 22 relative value scale shall be revenue-neutral. The fee schedule shall  
 23 limit the annual growth in total medical fees to the annual percentage  
 24 increase in the consumer price index for all urban workers. The  
 25 chairman may make necessary adjustments to the fee schedule for  
 26 services rendered under this chapter where there is no established  
 27 Medicare resource-based relative value. Payment of the established  
 28 fees by the employer or its insurance carrier shall constitute payment  
 29 in full to the practitioner, and the practitioner may not recover any  
 30 additional amount from the claimant to whom services have been  
 31 rendered;

32 (C) Issue, not later than October 1, 1993, and publish annually  
 33 thereafter, guidelines for the maximum fees payable by a claimant for  
 34 any legal services rendered by an attorney in connection with the  
 35 provisions of this chapter, which fees shall be approved in accordance  
 36 with the standards established by the chairman pursuant to  
 37 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2007	31-280(b)(11)
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To permit the Workers' Compensation Chairman to establish fees for workers' compensation medical providers using the Medicare resource-based relative value scale for establishing provider payments.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*